

House Joint Resolution 15 - Introduced

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15
BY DE BOEF

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution making application to the Congress of the
2 United States under Article V of the Constitution of the
3 United States, for the calling of a convention for proposing
4 amendments limited to specified subject areas.
5 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States
6 provides for the Congress of the United States to call a
7 convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of
8 the United States upon application of the legislatures of
9 two-thirds of the states; NOW THEREFORE,
10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. This resolution constitutes the application by
2 the Iowa General Assembly to the Congress of the United States,
3 under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the
4 United States, to call a convention for proposing amendments to
5 the Constitution of the United States.

6 Sec. 2. This application is for a convention limited to
7 considering and proposing amendments to the Constitution of the
8 United States on the following subjects.

9 1. Improving the fiscal management of the federal
10 government by doing any or all of the following: imposing
11 requirements, with any stated exceptions, that federal
12 expenditures during a fixed time period shall not exceed
13 federal revenues or anticipated revenues during that time
14 period; imposing prohibitions or limits on federal debt; or
15 imposing limits on expenditures, revenue, or taxes.

16 2. Improving the legislative process of the Congress of the
17 United States by doing any or all of the following: requiring
18 that all bills, orders, votes, and resolutions introduced in
19 and passed by the Congress contain only a single subject or
20 by providing a minimum time period before passage for bills,
21 orders, votes, and resolutions to be reviewed by members of
22 Congress and members of the general public.

23 3. Restraining the powers of the federal government by doing
24 any or all of the following: clarifying that the Constitution
25 of the United States does not authorize the Congress of
26 the United States to employ its spending power to regulate
27 activities otherwise outside its enumerated powers; or by
28 prohibiting mandates or requirements on any state, subdivision
29 of any state, or any official of any state, unless the federal
30 government fully funds the cost of compliance.

31 4. Empowering the legislatures of the several states, with
32 stated exceptions, to repeal all or certain parts of the acts
33 of Congress of the United States or administrative regulations.

34 Sec. 3.

35 1. This resolution shall be deemed an application for a

1 convention to address each and any of the enumerated subjects.

2 2. That for purposes of determining whether two-thirds
3 of the states have applied for a convention addressing
4 any subject, this resolution is to be aggregated with the
5 applications of any other state legislatures limited to one or
6 more of the enumerated subjects.

7 Sec. 4.

8 1. This resolution provides a continuing application and
9 remains in effect until rescision by the Iowa General Assembly.

10 2. This resolution does not constitute a recognition that
11 any particular activity currently undertaken by the federal
12 government is authorized by the Constitution of the United
13 States.

14 Sec. 5. Upon passage of this resolution the Chief Clerk
15 of the House of Representatives shall transmit copies of the
16 resolution to the President and Secretary of the United States
17 Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of
18 Representatives, and the Archivist of the United States, and
19 shall also transmit copies to the members of the United States
20 Senate and House of Representatives from this state and to the
21 presiding officers of each of the legislative chambers of the
22 other states, requesting their cooperation.

23 EXPLANATION

24 This joint resolution makes application to Congress of the
25 United States, as authorized by Article V of the Constitution
26 of the United States, for the calling of a convention for
27 proposing amendments to that constitution.

28 The subject matter enumerated by the resolution for the
29 constitutional convention is limited to the following subjects:
30 improving fiscal management of the federal government,
31 improving the legislative process of the Congress, restraining
32 the powers of the federal government, and empowering state
33 legislatures, with exceptions, to repeal all or parts of the
34 acts of Congress or administrative regulations.

35 Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires

1 application by two-thirds of the states in order for Congress
2 to be required to call a convention. The joint resolution
3 specifies that this resolution is to be aggregated with other
4 state applications for a convention that contains one or more
5 of the enumerated subjects.

6 The resolution also provides that the application remains
7 in effect until rescinded by a general assembly and does not
8 constitute recognition that any particular activity currently
9 undertaken by the federal government is authorized by the
10 Constitution of the United States.

11 Upon passage of the resolution, the chief clerk of the
12 house of representatives is required to transmit copies to
13 various congressional and federal officials, members of Iowa's
14 congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of the
15 legislative chambers of each state.